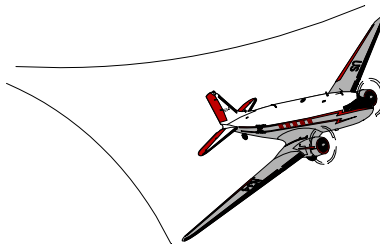


SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

Aircraft Certification Service
Washington, DC



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

CE-04-23
December 2, 2003

www.faa.gov - Search "SAIBs"

This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.

Introduction

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin informs you, registered owners and operators of **Air Tractor Inc. aircraft** listed below, of the potential for failure of the eyebolt that attaches the horizontal stabilizer spar to the stabilizer strut.

AT-300	AT-301	AT-302
AT-400	AT-400A	AT-401 and AT-402 through S/N 0700
AT-602	AT-802	AT-802A

Background

We have received reports of failed eyebolts on Air Tractor AT-300, AT-400 and AT-600 series models. Air Tractor issued Snow Engineering Service Letter (SL) #62 in 1985 in response to reports of cracked eyebolts in AT-300 series aircraft. In 1994, they issued SL #129 to replace eyebolts at 2000-hour intervals in response to another reported eyebolt failure. Air Tractor has now issued **revised SL #129, dated 11/5/03**, to replace the eyebolts every 1350 hours Time-in-Service (TIS) in response to a recent eyebolt failure reported on an AT-602 aircraft.

Starting with serial number 401-0701, Air Tractor incorporated larger size eyebolts into production aircraft. We are not aware of any failures of the larger eyebolts on AT-300/400/500 series aircraft. We have received one report of a failure of the larger eyebolt on an AT-602 aircraft, which like the AT-802 and AT-802A, has larger horizontal tail surfaces than the AT-300/400/500 series.

Recommendation

The FAA strongly recommends that starting at 1350 hours TIS, you replace the eyebolts in accordance with SL #129, revised 11/5/03. You should replace the eyebolts at intervals of every 1350 hours TIS thereafter. These actions will help insure the continued airworthiness of your airplane. Refer to Service Letter #129 for aircraft model and serial number effectivity, and applicable replacement eyebolt part numbers. To maintain a service history, we request you report eyebolts found cracked or failed to the manufacturer.

For Further Information Contact

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You can obtain copies of Service Letter #129 from the Air Tractor Customer Service Department at (940) 564-5616, or through your local Air Tractor Dealer.